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SECURITY INFORMATION

25X1

COUNTRY Eastern Germany REPORT NO.

TOPIC Military Information from the Wittenberg Area

25X1

DATE PREPARED 29 August 1952

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

25X1

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1. During the period from 4 a.m. on 4 August to 10 a.m. on 7 August 1952, large shipments by road and rail were seen in Wittenberg (N 52/E 37) proceeding in the direction of Dessau. About 1,000 motor vehicles and about 1,500 personnel predominantly with crimson epaulets and an engineer unit were seen. 25X1

2. Rail shipments seen at the Wittenberg railroad station included:
24 July. About 50 boxcars and 4 converted boxcars including 2 boxcars with officers and the others each occupied by about 35 soldiers with red epaulets en route from the U.S.S.R. to Rosslau via Frankfurt/Oder. (2) 25X1
29 July. At 10 p.m., 10 boxcars and an undetermined number of flatcars carrying about 30 trucks, 1 jeep, several sedans and 6 x 85-mm AA guns. (3)
1 August. An undetermined number of flatcars carrying 28 T-34 tanks which 25X1
25X1 were new. No escorting personnel was seen.
6 August. A train with 10 boxcars and an undetermined number of flatcars carrying
25X1 trucks and 5 AA guns of undetermined caliber, coming from the direction of Dessau. (4)
25X1
9 August. At 11 p.m., an undetermined number of flatcars carrying about 30 trucks, 9 sedans and 5 jeeps coming from the direction
25X1 of Dessau. (4)

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10 August. At 4 a.m., 10 boxcars and an undetermined number of flatcars carrying about 50 trucks [redacted] 25X1
On 2 August, 180 soldiers wearing tank insignia arrived on the regular train from the direction of Jueterbog and marched to the Arado installation. (5)
About 40 trucks, 5 radio cars, 2 sedans, and 1 jeep including 4 motor vehicles [redacted] 25X1
[redacted] were entrained from the Flak Kaserne on 9 August. (6) On 10 August, 25X1 12 x 85-mm AA guns, about 20 trucks and 6 one-axle trailers, probably searchlights, were entrained, coming from the Flak Kaserne. (6)

25X1

25X1 [redacted] Comments.

25X1 (1) Similar observations [redacted] in Wittenberg in the morning of 6 August. However, [redacted] no engineer unit in this column. [redacted] 25X1
[redacted] most of the motor vehicles [redacted] except for the 25X1
25X1 engineer unit, belong to the Third Shock Army, while individual vehicles belong to GHQ units, the Third Gds Recz Army and the air force. [redacted] the 25X1 engineer unit belong to GHQ units. The information contained in the referenced report and observations made in the area of Finsterwalde on 8 August tend to indicate that the com and post exercise which began in mid-July was terminated 25X1 at that time. [redacted] is not known whether the engineer unit also participated in that exercise or whether two coinciding but separate tactical operations were concerned.

25X1 (2) Although [redacted] was reported, the train possibly is the train [redacted] which, with about 46 boxcars carrying personnel, went 25X1 from Kuestrin to Frankfurt/Oder on 24 July. [redacted] 25X1

(3) [redacted] on 29 July, train [redacted] went from Magdeburg to 25X1 25X1 Oppelhain near Finsterwalde and was probably seen passing through Wittenberg carrying motor vehicles of the Third Shock Army at 5:30 a.m. on the same day. [redacted] This train which also carried [redacted] the 25X1 Third Shock Army is believed to be a second train of this army which was not 25X1 reported previously. The information contained in paragraph 1 of the present report tends to indicate that several units of this army participated in the command post exercise in the Finsterwalde-Wittenberg area.

(4) The trains probably carried elements of the Fourth Gds Recz Army which returned to Eberswalde from the Halle, Dessau and Sachsenhausen railroad stations. [redacted] 25X1 [redacted]

(5) The Arado installation probably quarters the tank training battalion of the 6th Gds Tank Div.

25X1 (6) The first train carried a unit of the Eighth Gds Army. The troops on the second train cannot be identified. The departure of units from Wittenberg on 9 and 11 August also supports the assumption that the command post exercise in the 25X1 Finsterwalde-Wittenberg area was terminated. [redacted] Comment (1) of the present report.

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